

Message Text

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50/44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 PA-03 PRS-01 INR-10 AID-20

DPW-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /132 W
----- 078491

O R 301220 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4322

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL UDORN

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

SECDEF

USDAO SAIGON

DIRNSA FT GG MDEADE MD

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC

COMUSMACTHAI

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI

CINCPACFLT

CINCPACAF

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

388 TFW KORAT

DODSPECREP BANGKOK

DODSPECREP NKP

CHSPECATS BANGKOK

7 ACCS KORAT

354 TFW KORAT RTAFB

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56 SOW NKP
432 TRW UDORN
CDR JCRC NKP
8 TFW UBON
ARMA/ AIRA VTN LAOS
ARMA/ AIRA SVKT LAOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 4012

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (T E X T)

E. O. 11652 : GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PINT, PFOR, LA
SUBJECT: LAO SITUATION REPORT- MAY 30

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD: 13 AF ADVON, 432 TFW, 56 SOW
388 TFW, 354 TFW AND 8 TFW FOR DO/ DI; MACTHAI FOR J2
AND PAO.

REF: VIENTIANE 3983

BEGIN SUMMARY: MILITARY- ACTION INCREASED SLIGHTLY
DURING PERIOD 28-29 MAY, WITH TWO MAJOR SHELLING
INCIDENTS AND ONE GROUND ATTACK REPORTED BY LOCAL DEFENSE
FORCES OPERATING GENERALLY NORTH OF THE ROUTE NINE TOWN
OF SENO. FARTHER EAST, FRIENDLY FORCES AT MUONG PHALANE
RECEIVED LETTER THREATENING ENEMY ATTACK IF THEY DID NOT
WITHDRAW FROM POSITIONS THEY HAVE, IN FACT, HELD SINCE
THE CEASEFIRE. RLAF FLEW ZERO SORTIES. POLITICAL-
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CONSIDERS RESOLUTION SUGGESTING THAT
LPF BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.
LPF SPECIAL ADVISOR PHOUMI VONGVICHIT MET WITH PRIME
MINISTER ON MAY 28. TOURING LPF DELEGATION ARRIVED IN
BUCHAREST ON MAY 28. END SUMMARY.

1. MILITARY SITUATION

A. MR I: NO GROUND ACTION REPORTED. PATROL VICINITY
ROUTE 13, EAST OF KIOU KA CHAM AND NORTH OF SALA PHOU
KHOUN, FOUND ENEMY CACHE CONTAINING ONE RECOILLESS RIFLE
AND 75 ROCKET/ RECOILLESS ROUNDS.

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B. MMRR' S II AND V: NO GROUND ACTION REPORTED.
C. MR III: ONE MAJOR INCIDENT OCCURRED MID- DAY 28 MAY
(0535 Z), WHEN LOCAL DEFENSE COMPANY, OPERATING SOME 20
KM NORTHEAST OF SENO AT WD 110-593 RECEIVED 60- ROUND MORTAR ATTACK
(NO CASUALTIES). LATER SAME DAY, UNKNOWN SIZE ENEMY FORCE
ATTACKED SAME UNIT AND FORCED IT TO
WITHDRAW WITH ONE

FRIEND WIA. EVENING 28 MAY (7100 Z), SECOND MAJOR INCIDENT OCCURRED WHEN ANOTHER LOCAL DEFENSE COMPANY, OPERATING 16 KM NORTH/NORTHEAST OF SENO AT WD 052-587 WAS HIT BY ESTIMATED 100 ROUNDS MORTAR FIRE (NO CASUALTIES). ELSEWHERE, ONE MINOR SHELLING OCCURRED SOME 18 KM SOUTHWEST OF MUONG IHALANE ON 29 MAY (NO CASUALTIES). FRIENDLY FORCES AT MUONG PHA ANE RECEIVED LETTER FROM ENEMY WHICH

THREATENED ATTACKS IF FRIENDS DID NOT WITHDRAW; NO TIME LIMIT WAS GIVEN. THIS AREA HAS BEEN UNDER UNCONTESTED RLG CONTROL SINCE THE CEASEFIRE.

D. MR IV: ONLY ACTION IN REGION WAS MINOR PATROL CLASH IN PHIAFAY AREA WELL SOUTHEAST OF PAKSE ON 29 MAY (NO CASUALTIES).

2. POLITICAL SITUATION

A. IN ILENARS SESSION MAY 29, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SENT TO COMMITTEE A RESOLUTION SPONSORED BY GENERAL AMKHA SOUKHAVONG WHICH WOULD IN EFFECT SUGGEST THAT THE GOVERNMENT INVITE THE LPF

TO NOMINATE TWENTY PERSONS TO JOIN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. THE RESOLUTION IS BASED UPON ARTICLE 25 OF THE CONSTITUTION, WHICH PROVIDES THAT THE KING MAY INCREASE BY ONE- THIRD THE NUMBER OF DEPUTIES. IN ASSEMBLY DISCUSSION, NGON SANANIKONE ASSERTED THAT THE RESOLUTION WOULD INDICATE TO THE LPF THAT THE DOOR IS OPEN FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE ASSEMBLY, BUT HE ALSO NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO IMPLEMENT INASNUCH AS THE LPF HAD ALREADY REFUSED TO

RECOGNIZE THIS ASSEMBLY. (COMMENT:

LPF, INDEED, REJECTED SUCH AN OFFER PROPOSED BY RLG IN COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS LAST NOVEMBER. GENERAL AMKHA IS CONFIDENTIAL

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CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE SANANIKONE FACTION IN THE ASSEMBLY. HIS RESOLUTION, WHILE ENDORSED TO COMMITTEE BY A VOTE OF 24 TO 2, WITH 12 ABSENTIONS, IS CLEARLY A NON- STARTER AND MAY NEVER LEAVE COMMITTEE. IT IS PROBABLY SUPPORTED BY A NUMBER OF DEPUTIES WHO SEEK LPF PARTICIPATION IN THE ASSEMBLY SO THAT THE ASSEMBLY WOULD NEITHER BE DEACTIVATED NOR DISSOLVED AFTER THE FORMATION OF THE NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT. THE LPF MAY WELL, AND CORRECTLY, SEE IN THIS MOVE ANOTHER ATTEMPT BY THE ASSEMBLY AND THE SANANIKONE FACTION TO INTERFERE IN THE ELABORATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENTIANE AGREEMENT. END COMMENT)

B. PATHET LAO RADIO REPORTED THAT LPF SPECIAL ADVISOR

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT MET WITH PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA FOR
THE SIXTH TIME ON MAY 28. THE RADIO BROADCAST STATED
THAT " THE MEETING' S PURPOSE WAS TO CONCLUDE THE SIGNING
OF THE PROTOCOLS AND THE SETTING UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
OF TH
E E E E E E E

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: MOPS, PINS, LA, PINT
To: BANGKOK
CIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
EA
MOSCOW
PARIS
PHNOM PENH

SAIGON

SECSTATE WASHDC

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